APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/585,151	06/01/2000	Richard B. Himmelstein	HIM-PT002.2	5239

			EXAMINER
3624	7590	10/06/2006	NEURAUTER, GEORGE C

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2143	

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/585,151	HIMMELSTEIN, RICHARD B.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	George C. Neurauter, Jr.	2143	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *10 July 2006*.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *52-82* is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *52-54,57-71 and 74-82* is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) *55,56,72 and 73* is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

   1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 52-82 are currently presented and have been examined.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114,
including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this
application after final rejection. Since this application is
eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the
fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the
finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn
pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10
July 2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 19 July 2006 have been fully
considered but they are not persuasive.

The Applicant continues to argue that the combined
teachings of "HTML" and Anand do not teach the claimed
invention. The Examiner is not persuaded by these remarks and
maintains the views previously presented. The claims as present
merely recite performing a single standard database query to
match information within cells in a database table. Such a query
is well known and used within the database art and the claims
are not in condition for allowance. The Applicant is invited to

also consider the cited prior art in this Office Action

concerning "crosstab" database queries.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which

forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this

Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham* **v.** *John Deere*

Co., 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for

establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1.   Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2.   Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3.   Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4.   Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3.   Claims 52-54, 57, 59-61, 64, 67, 69-71, 74, 76-78, and 81-

82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over "HTML 4.0 Specification" ("HTML") in view of US Patent 5

974 416 A to Anand et al.

Regarding claim 52, "HTML" discloses an interactive

directory system for permitting a user to access and retrieve

information from a network of computers, comprising:

a data table that is selectively definable by a user ("HTML

table") comprising:

at least two columns (Chapter 11, section 11.2.4 "Column

groups: the COLGROUP and COL elements"), each of said columns

having a column heading;

and at least one row (Chapter 11, section 11.2.3 "Row

Groups: the THEAD, TFOOT, and TBODY elements") having a row

heading (Chapter 11, section 11.1 "Introduction to Tables",

paragraph beginning "Table cells may contain either header…" and

section 11.2.6 "Table cells: The TH and TD elements") and a

plurality of cells, said plurality of cells corresponding to

said at least two columns, each of said plurality of cells for

storing a unique identifier related to its corresponding column

heading and row heading (Chapter 11, section 11.1 "Introduction

to Tables", paragraph beginning "Table cells may contain either

header…" and section 11.2.6 "Table cells: The TH and TD

elements"); and

whereby each said cell can be activated by the user to

perform at least one action related to said stored unique

identifiers. (Chapter 11, section 11.2.1 "The TABLE element",

"onclick"; Chapter 18, section 18.2.3 "Intrinsic events",

"onclick")

"HTML" does not disclose a key phrase field for accepting a

search term and a search unit for searching for unique

identifiers from the network of computers related to the search

term, said at least one row heading, and one of said at least

two column headings, said search unit storing said unique

identifiers in the applicable cell, however, "HTML" does

disclose wherein the column headings and row headings of a data

table are used to correspond to cells (Chapter 11, section

11.4.2 "Categorizing cells")

Anand discloses a key phrase field for accepting a search

term ("query" made through a "browser") and a search unit

("proxy") for searching for unique identifiers from the network

of computers related to the search term, said at least one row

heading, and one of said at least two column headings (column 2,

line 64-column 3, line 8; column 6, lines 26-28; column 11,

lines 43-53), said search unit storing said unique identifiers

in the applicable cell (column 7, lines 59-62)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings

of these references since Anand discloses that the invention

enables improved data transfer of data tables between a client

and a database server on a network such as the Internet (column 2, lines 3-15). In view of this specific advantage and that both references as directed to transferring data table data between a database and a client, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings of these references and considered both references to be analogous to one another based on their related fields of endeavor.

Regarding claim 53, "HTML" and Anand disclose the interactive directory system of claim 52.

"HTML" discloses wherein said activation is selected from the group comprising obtaining additional information, placing a telephone call, sending a facsimile, and sending a message over the network of computers. (Chapter 2, section 2.1.1 "Introduction to URIs", "mailto")

Regarding claim 54, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory system of claim 52.

"HTML" discloses wherein said network of computers includes the Internet (Chapter 2, section 2.1 "What is the World Wide Web?").

Regarding claim 57, "HTML" and Anand discloses the directory system of claim 53.

"HTML" discloses wherein said message is an email. (Chapter 2, section 2.1.1 "Introduction to URIs", "mailto")

Regarding claim 59, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory

system of claim 52.

"HTML" discloses wherein said at least one action is

implemented with a single selection of the cell. (Chapter 11,

section 11.2.1 "The TABLE element", "onclick"; Chapter 18,

section 18.2.3 "Intrinsic events", "onclick")

Regarding claim 60, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory

system of claim 52.

"HTML" discloses wherein said system is accessed by

selecting an icon on a computer screen. (Chapter 17, section

17.2.1 "Control types", "push buttons")

Regarding claim 61, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory

system of claim 52.

"HTML" does not disclose wherein said plurality of cells

are automatically filled in as a user searches the Internet,

however, Anand does disclose this limitation (column 7, lines

59-62).

Claim 61 is rejected since the motivations regarding the

obviousness of claim 52 also apply to claim 61.

Regarding claim 64, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory

system of claim 52.

"HTML" discloses wherein said unique identifier is an e-

mail address, and said activation comprises sending an e-mail to

said e-mail address. (Chapter 2, section 2.1.1 "Introduction to

URIs", "mailto")

Regarding claim 65, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory

system of claim 52.

"HTML" discloses the system further comprising a cursor and

an activity menu having a plurality of activity buttons (Chapter

17, section 17.2.1 "Control types", "menus" and "buttons");

whereby each of said activity buttons defines an action related

to said unique identifiers within a cell. (Chapter 17, section

17.2.1 "Control types", "push buttons")

Regarding claim 66, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory

system of claim 64.

"HTML" discloses wherein said cursor is activateable to

highlight one of said plurality of cells (Chapter 11, section

11.2.6 "Table cells: The TH and TD elements", "onfocus"; Chapter

18, section 18.2.3 "Intrinsic events", "onfocus") and at least

one of said plurality of activity buttons change to reflect said

stored unique identifier in said highlighted cell. (Chapter 17,

section 17.5 "The BUTTON element", "onfocus"; Chapter 18,

section 18.2.3 "Intrinsic events", "onfocus")

Regarding claim 67, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory

system of claim 52, wherein said row heading and said column

headings are interchangeable. (Chapter 11, section 11.1

"Introduction to Tables", paragraph beginning "Table cells may contain either header…" and section 11.2.6 "Table cells: The TH and TD elements")

Regarding claim 68, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory system of claim 52.

"HTML" does not disclose the system further comprising at least one database, whereby said system accesses and retrieves information within said at least one database, however, Anand does disclose these limitations (column 2, lines 3-6)

Claim 68 is rejected since the motivations regarding the obviousness of claim 52 also apply to claim 68.

Claims 69-71, 74, 76-78, and 81-82 are also rejected since these claims recite a method that contains substantially the same limitations as recited in claims 52-54, 57, 59-61, 64, and 67 respectively.

Claims 62-63 and 79-80 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over "HTML" and Anand et al. as applied to claim 52 and 69 respectively above, and further in view of "Hyperactions in a Markup Language" ("Hyperactions").

Regarding claim 62, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory system of claim 52.

"HTML" and Anand do not disclose wherein said unique identifier is a phone number, and said activation comprises

placing a telephone call, however, "Hyperactions" does disclose these limitations (paragraph beginning "Disclosed is a means of controlling…", lines 1-8)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of these references since "Hyperactions" discloses that the system allows the user to operate hardware using HTML (paragraph beginning "Disclosed is a means of controlling…", lines 4-8). In view of this specific advantage described above in "Hyperactions" and wherein each reference is directed towards using HTML documents and their associated elements to operate the system, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings of these references and would have considered them to be analogous to one another based on their related fields of endeavor.

Regarding claim 63, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory system of claim 52.

"HTML" and Anand do not expressly disclose wherein said unique identifier is a facsimile number, and said activation comprises sending a facsimile to said facsimile number, however, "Hyperactions" does disclose these limitations (paragraph beginning "Disclosed is a means of controlling...", lines 1-8)

Claim 63 is rejected since the motivations regarding the obviousness of claim 62 also apply to claim 63.

Claims 79 and 80 are also rejected since these claims recite a method that contain substantially the same limitations as recited in claims 62 and 63.

Claims 58 and 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over "HTML" and Anand as applied to claims 52 and 69 respectively above, and further in view of "Distributed Databases" ("Distributed").

Regarding claim 58, "HTML" and Anand disclose the directory system of claim 52.

"HTML" and Anand do not disclose wherein said stored unique identifiers originate from at least two sources, however, "Distributed" does disclose these limitations (the sentence "A collection of several different...")

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of these references since "Distributed" discloses that the plurality of database enables the client to obtain data from the plurality of databases only from the centralized database (the sentence "A collection of several different..."). In view of these specific advantages and that both references are directed to database data retrieval, one of ordinary skill would have

been motivated to combine these references and would have considered them to be analogous to one another based on their related fields of endeavor.

Claim 75 is also rejected since this claim recites a method that contains substantially the same limitations as recited in claim 58.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 55-56 and 72-73 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George C. Neurauter, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3918. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9AM to 5:30PM Eastern.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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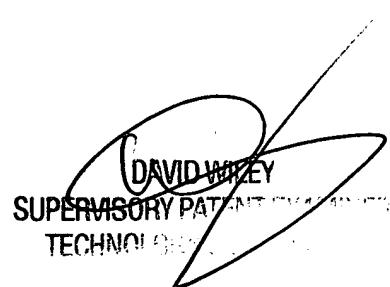
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